



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024 from 5:30-7:30 pm

Optional: Post-Meeting Q&A from 7:30-8:00 pm

1. Welcome (5:30) – Shannon Turner & Julius Moss, Co-Chairs

2. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary for February 1, 2024*
- b. EAC Member Announcements
- c. Staff Announcements*
- d. GMPB and TPB Meeting Summaries*

3. Discussion Item (5:45)

- a. Icebreakers and Quarterly Engagement Activity* – Noah Boggess, PSRC

4. Discussion Item (6:00)

- a. Demographic Profile & Title VI Introduction* – Carol Naito, PSRC

5. Break (6:30)

6. Discussion Item (6:40)

- a. Preparation for 2024 PSRC Regional Priority Ranking Process* – Gil Cerise & Jean Kim, PSRC

7. Information Items

- a. VISION 2050 Awards: Call for Nominations 2024*
- b. Save the Date: 2024 Annual PSRC General Assembly, May 30, 2024 from 9:30 am – 1:00 pm*

8. Zoom Poll (7:25)

9. Next meeting: April 4, 2024

10. Adjourn (7:30)

Optional Post-Meeting Q&A (7:30) – Charles Patton, PSRC

*Supporting materials attached.

Members can access the attendance sheet [here](#) to complete and submit to finance@psrc.org for compensation.

Zoom Remote Connection Details

- To join the webinar, please click the following link: <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/82285869418?pwd=f2tfp2U60aPbq2fCBhVPL2hDEjynQ.nXd126mhn1a6YO5D> and enter Passcode: 946410.
- To join by phone, call 877 853 5257 US Toll Free or 888 475 4499 US Toll Free and enter Webinar ID: 822 8586 9418 and Passcode: 946410.
- For TTY-based telecommunications relay service dial 711.
- العربية | Arabic, 中文 | Chinese, Deutsch | German, Français | French, 한국어 | Korean, Русский | Russian, Español | Spanish, Tagalog, Tiếng việt | Vietnamese, visit <https://www.psrc.org/contact/language-assistance>.



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date: February 1, 2024

Location: Remote Only

Presentations from the meeting are available on the [Equity Advisory Committee webpage](#). Audio recording of the meeting is available by request.

Welcome

Shannon Turner, from Kitsap County, and Julius Moss, from Pierce County, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The co-chairs welcomed everyone and asked Mikayla to begin the roll call for attendance.

Staff Announcements

Charles Patton reminded all committee members to respond to “Everyone” in the chat. He then shared a brief presentation on the [EAC Co-chair Selection](#) process, and Co-chairs Shannon and Julius discussed their experiences in this leadership position with the committee. Mikayla launched a poll asking if members were interested in serving as a co-chair for the EAC. Charles briefed the committee on the work of the Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board, whose meeting summaries were included in the EAC agenda packet on pg. 9-12. Annie Tran, representing the EAC on the TPB, also shared a brief update of the TPB work program.

Discussion Item: Icebreakers and Quarterly Engagement Activity

Noah Boggess shared the structure and purpose of these breakouts with the committee, and explained that different members of the committee would lead these small groups for member relationship building.

Questions? Contact Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at nboggess@psrc.org.

Discussion Item: Equity Pilot Status Report and 2024 Transportation Updates

The Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) worked with PSRC staff throughout 2023 to review PSRC’s current project selection process as it relates to equity and develop an equity pilot program to distribute approximately \$6 million of PSRC’s 2025-2026 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds. The EAC finalized their recommendations to the board at their meeting on December 7 for both the projects to receive funding as well as further equity improvements in PSRC’s 2024 project selection process.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

Questions? Contact Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy and Initiatives, at cpatton@psrc.org or Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation, at kmcgourty@psrc.org.

Discussion Item: 2023 Housing Monitoring Report

The Equity Advisory Committee was briefed on the 2023 Housing Monitoring Report. As directed by the Regional Housing Strategy, the Housing Monitoring Report details the status of the housing landscape in 2023. This includes data and case studies to track the Strategy's implementation and identify gaps and opportunities for future work.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

Questions? Contact Eric Clute, Associate Planner, at eclute@psrc.org.

Adjourn

At the close of the meeting, members participated in a poll to evaluate the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Members Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Mikayla Svob, PSRC
Charles Patton, PSRC
Kelly McGourty, PSRC
Noah Boggess, PSRC
Eric Clute, PSRC

PSRC Equity Advisory Committee - Attendance Roster

[illegible]



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

March 7, 2024

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy and Initiatives

SUBJECT: GMPB and TPB Meeting Summaries



February 1, 2024

State Legislative Update

PSRC staff provided an update on the Governor's supplemental budget and bills before the Washington State Legislature during the short 60-day legislative session that began on January 8. PSRC data staff demonstrated a [mapping tool](#) to visualize the impact of Community Transit Oriented Development bills, [House Bill 2160](#) and [Senate Bill 6024](#) (not moving forward).

For more information, contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at Rkoskey@psrc.org or 206-798-4462.

Regional Centers Monitoring Scope of Work

The board provided feedback and direction to proceed on the draft scope of work for the regional centers work program. In 2018, PSRC's Executive Board adopted the Regional Centers Framework to identify more consistent criteria for regional centers, which includes monitoring and redesignation processes. PSRC staff conducted outreach on the scope in 2023, for the work happening through 2026. The draft scope of work highlights three key outcomes for this process- evaluate the success

of the system of centers, consider the designation of new regional centers and confirm the designation of existing centers with a clear redesignation process. The systems monitoring in 2024 will gather data in categories of growth, mobility, housing, environment, social equity and opportunity, economic development, public health and urban form. Criteria reports for individual centers will be developed in 2025. Existing data on regional centers are available in the online centers profiles. The Executive Board will review and give direction to process the scope of work at their February meeting. In 2025, PSRC will issue a call for applications for new regional centers, staff will review and provide recommendations to the Growth Management Policy Board and Executive Board in late 2025.

For more information, contact Maggie Moore, Senior Planner, at mmoore@psrc.org.

Equity Advisory Committee Work Plan

The board heard about the progress the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) has made on regional equity work, including the creation of elements in the Regional Equity Strategy and the progress on the Equity Pilot. Staff and the EAC collaborated on the Regional Equity Strategy and created components of community engagement, capacity building, best practices and data and research. The EAC also had \$6 million in FHWA funds through their Equity Pilot Program, developing parameters by which projects will be selected for funding, with an overarching focus on improving equity with transportation investments. The Equity Advisory Committee's meeting was held on February 1, 2024, where they received an update on the 2024 Project Selection process and heard an overview of the 2023 Housing Monitoring report and engagement plan for the Regional Safety Plan.

For more information, contact Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy and Initiatives, at cpatton@psrc.org.



February 8, 2024

Regional Transportation Plan Limited Call for Project Updates

The Transportation Policy Board recommended the Executive Board adopt an amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan to reflect revisions to the Regional Capacity Project list. PSRC released a limited call for project updates in November 2023. Revisions could include changes in cost, scope, or completion date to projects in the existing Constrained plan; requests to move projects from the Unprogrammed portion of the plan to Constrained; or to request new project entries to the plan. Changes to project costs result in a net increase to the Constrained plan of over \$14 billion, with the majority of the cost differential from Sound Transit projects. Information on the Sound Transit financial plan was provided to ensure the financial constraint of the adopted plan was maintained. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

For more information, please contact Mitch Koch, at mkoch@psrc.org.

Regional Transportation Plan Dashboard

The board was briefed on the work to develop a performance dashboard as identified in the Regional Transportation Plan. Staff provided information on trends related to safety, climate, travel and growth with key metrics including changes in vehicle miles traveled, serious and fatal collisions, transit use, commute trends and zero-emission vehicle registrations. [View presentation](#).

For more information, please contact Craig Helmann, Director of Data, at (206) 389-2889 or chelmann@psrc.org.

Regional Transportation Plan (2026-2050) Development Process

Staff briefed the board on the current adopted Regional Transportation Plan and provided information on the schedule and work program for developing the next plan, to be adopted in 2026. The board provided preliminary feedback on key priorities, and discussions will continue throughout 2024. [View presentation](#).

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at 206-971-3601 or kmcgourty@psrc.org or Gil Cerise, Program Manager, at 206-971-3053 or gcerise@psrc.org.

Project Selection Future Work Items

This item was deferred to March.

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at 206-971-3601 or kmcgourty@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

March 7, 2024

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist

SUBJECT: Quarterly Engagement Activity

IN BRIEF

Throughout 2024, EAC members will join breakout sessions, which will serve as loosely structured times for the EAC to meet in groups of five and get to know one another better. These sessions will last about 20 minutes.

Each member will have the opportunity to serve as a facilitator and will be responsible for moving the conversation along. Facilitators will have their choice to:

- Introduce themselves to the group in more detail, sharing about their career and journey to the EAC.
- Discuss the EAC workplan, bouncing ideas off of fellow members about topics in the year to come.
- Discuss issues the region is facing (e.g. affordable housing crisis).
- Get to know the small group better and continue to break the ice with the new cohort.

February Leads	March Leads	May Leads
Mindy Woods Debbie Lacy Autrina Martindale Noah Boggess	Lisa Espinosa Shannon Turner Corey Orvold Hien 'Elly' Trinh	Jewel Shepherd-Sampson Megan Espinoza Thanh Nguyen Lily Distelhorst

July Leads	October Leads
Maria Fergus Julius Moss Lupe Valtierra-Prieto Annie Tran	Laurenne Sayles Keshreeyaji Oswal Ben Sung Henry Julia Jannon-Shields

Staff want this lift to be as light as possible and members are not expected to spend too much time or energy preparing for it. Staff will have some questions for facilitators in the event they are unable to prepare to facilitate a meeting.

Lead Staff

Contact Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at nboggess@psrc.org with questions or comments.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

March 7, 2024

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Carol Naito, Program Manager – Data Applications

SUBJECT: 2024 Title VI Demographic Profile

IN BRIEF

At its meeting on March 7, 2024, the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) will hear about PSRC's forthcoming work to conduct a triannual update to its Title VI demographic profile, a component of the agency's broader Title VI Plan.

Committee members are asked to provide their thoughts and feedback on the proposed scope of work for the 2024 profile update.

DISCUSSION

As part of its Title VI requirements, PSRC develops and maintains a [Title VI Plan](#) which includes a demographic profile of the central Puget Sound region's people of color, low-income, and other populations relevant to supporting the agency's equity work program as well as public outreach and engagement activities. The profile is updated every three years, with the last update occurring in 2021.

The Committee will hear about the role and purpose served by the Title VI demographic profile in metropolitan planning organization (MPO) activities, and the federal statutory and administrative framework that governs this planning requirement.

The presentation will include an overview of the agency's [2021 Central Puget Sound Demographic Profile](#), including key data highlights, as well as the proposed scope of work for the forthcoming 2024 update to the profile.

At the conclusion of the staff presentation, members of the EAC will be asked the following questions:

1. Do members have follow-up questions about the Title VI demographic profile and its purpose?
2. Do members have thoughts and feedback on the proposed scope of work and content for the 2024 demographic profile?

Next Steps

Staff will return to the Equity Advisory Committee at its meeting in June 2024 to provide an interim project update, and again at its meeting in December 2024 to present key data highlights and take-aways from the 2024 demographic profile.

Lead Staff

Questions? Contact Carol Naito, Program Manager, at 206-464-7535 or at cnaito@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

March 7, 2024

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Gil Cerise, Program Manager, Transportation Planning
Jean Kim, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning

SUBJECT: Preparation for 2024 PSRC Regional Priority Ranking Process

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff will provide the EAC with background on the Regional Priority Ranking Process for the state's Consolidated Grant competition and ask for input and suggestions for incorporating equity into the PSRC's evaluation and ranking process.

DISCUSSION

Every two years, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) awards state and federal funds for specialized transportation services through a competitive process, called the Consolidated Grant program. Specialized transportation fills mobility gaps when public transit is unavailable or does not fully meet the needs of people with accessibility and mobility challenges, including older adults and people with disabilities. Grant recipients can use the funds to operate accessible shuttles or volunteer driver programs, purchase vehicles, or offer information referral services that help riders with accessibility and mobility needs understand and use available transportation options.

PSRC's role in the state Consolidated Grant process is to allocate regional priority rankings to applications in from the region¹ seeking Consolidated Grant funds. WSDOT allocates each region a fixed number of A, B, and C rankings to award. PSRC's Special Needs Transportation Committee (SNTC) develops initial recommendations for project rankings, and the Executive Board takes final action. PSRC then submits the priority rankings to WSDOT. All "A" projects automatically receive funds. For "B" and "C" projects, points associated with each ranking (higher points for B and lower points for C rankings) are added to their score for the statewide competition. PSRC can also distribute an unlimited number of D rankings, which do not contribute any additional points to the statewide score. However, the D ranking allows the project to compete,

¹ King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties participate in the WSDOT Consolidated Grant through PSRC's regional priority ranking process. Kitsap County is a member of both PSRC and the Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) and participates in the Consolidated Grant through the Peninsula RTPO.

relying solely on its state score. Figure 1 illustrates the process and timeline for the region's priority ranking process.

Figure 1. Priority Ranking Process for PSRC Region



PSRC staff review the grant applications first to provide an initial sorting of projects as a starting point for the SNTC's deliberation and ranking recommendations. Therefore, these factors need to be easily quantified and articulated in grant application materials. In 2022, the staff assessment considered four priority ranking factors (shown in Table 1). These factors were derived from the [Coordinated Mobility Plan](#), which serves as the region's Coordinated Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

Table 1. Regional Priority Ranking Factors Used For the 2022 Process

Priority Ranking Factors	Evaluation Questions
Project Type (Preservation vs. New/ Expansion)	Is the project needed to support the ongoing operations of an existing program? This includes fleet replacement and maintenance, or other capital needs to support an existing program at existing service levels.
Support for PSRC's Coordinated Mobility Plan	Does the project support PSRC's Coordinated Mobility Plan by addressing at least one "high" priority strategy identified in the plan?
Uniqueness of Service	Does the application demonstrate the uniqueness of the project and how it meets the needs that are not met by other transportation services in the same geographic area serving similar priority populations?
Financial Sustainability	Does the application demonstrate that it is providing more than the federal minimum required match from local sources in its project budget?

In addition to the above factors used for the staff assessment, SNTC can identify "additional factors for consideration" to use during their deliberations to further distinguish applications. These additional factors should be different than the factors described in Table 1 to avoid duplication in assessment.

During the 2022 process, SNTC agreed that racial and social equity are important factors for consideration. All projects participating in this competition serve priority

populations, and most of them are critical safety nets for underserved communities in the region. The committee used demographic data and equity-related information derived from applications as a resource for its deliberations. However, the committee acknowledged that there was limited information provided by applicants to develop a stand-alone equity factor and agreed to work on further incorporating racial and social equity in future deliberations.

Therefore, at the March meeting, the EAC will have an opportunity to provide feedback on PSRC's priority ranking process and factors. Staff will share potential ideas to further incorporate equity into the process.

Members will be asked questions such as:

- Do you have any suggestions on how to further incorporate equity into PSRC's Regional Priority Ranking Process?
- Which staff proposals for improvements most resonate with you?
- Are there any other ideas you have in mind to improve PSRC's Regional Priority Ranking Process?

Next Steps

Over the next few months, PSRC will continue to work with the Special Needs Transportation Committee to develop and finalize Regional Priority Ranking Factors for the 2024 process. Staff will return to the EAC to share final factors before the June 18 call for projects.

Lead Staff

For more information or to provide further feedback, contact Jean Kim, Senior Planner, at jkim@psrc.org or 206-971-3052, or Gil Cerise, Program Manager, at gcerise@psrc.org or 206-971-3053.

VISION 2050 AWARDS

Call for Nominations 2024

The Puget Sound Regional Council is seeking nominations for the VISION 2050 Awards Program through April 1, 2024.

The VISION 2050 Awards celebrate progress to enhance the region's communities and natural environment while advancing equity and opportunity for all. The awards recognize innovative work to create a better future for central Puget Sound.

We welcome nominations in the following categories:

On the Ground

Projects that show VISION 2050 in action today, including housing, mixed-use development or redevelopment, expanding access to opportunity, open space preservation, and transportation investments.

Planning Ahead

Comprehensive or subarea plans, economic development plans, climate action plans, equity initiatives, design guidelines, outreach programs, and other similar efforts that are shaping a positive future for the region.

Working Together

Cross-jurisdictional or public/private partnerships focused on solutions or working together to tackle tough problems and advance VISION 2050. Examples include multijurisdictional work on housing affordability, environmental and climate initiatives, corridor transportation planning, or other similar efforts to face long-term regional challenges.

The region's vision for 2050

is to provide exceptional quality of life, opportunity for all, connected communities, a spectacular natural environment, and an innovative, thriving economy. More information about the goals and themes of VISION 2050 can be found at www.psrc.org

Eligibility

New this year: PSRC will only be accepting nominations directly from its [membership](#). Firms seeking to nominate projects can do so through the member jurisdiction in which the project is located.

Nominations must be for projects, programs, plans or partnerships within the four-county region of King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties that help achieve VISION 2050. More information about the goals and themes of VISION 2050 can be found at psrc.org/vision.

All nominated projects must be completed and open, plans must be adopted by their jurisdictions, programs must be in operation and partnerships must be formally working together.

Submit a Nomination!

Nominations must be submitted online through the [VISION 2050 Awards Nomination Form](#)

Learn more at: www.psrc.org

Scan the code for
the nomination form



Schedule

- April 1, 2024 – Nominations due
- April-May 2024 – Awards Selection Committee composed of PSRC board members will select the award winners
- Summer/Fall 2024 – Awards presented on location around the region



VISION 2050 AWARDS



SAVE THE DATE

Puget Sound Regional Council

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

May 30, 2024 | 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Location TBD

PSRC's General Assembly will meet on **May 30, 2024**, to vote on major decisions, establish the budget, and elect new officers. Please save the date!

All mayors, county executives, commissioners, and councilmembers of PSRC member jurisdictions and tribes have votes at the Assembly and are encouraged to participate.

Registration will open in **early April**.

For questions, please contact **Sheila Rogers** at (206) 354-6560 or email srogers@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council